



172 Four Rod Road

1713

Nathaniel Hart (1695-1758) & Abigail Hooker (1698-1761). Parents of General Selah Hart

Burned January 28, 1936 and rebuilt

1935 Susqui-Centennial Celebration of the Town of Berlin – Berlin Old Houses.

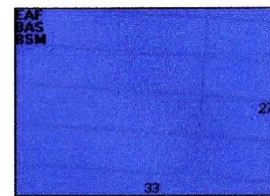
1720 Nathaniel Hart current owner: Emily Hart Moore Bauer Est

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

Sketch

1713 Current owner: Ronald & Margaret Asal

Cape. 1.4 stories, 4 rooms, 2 bedrooms, gable roof



Genealogy

Nathaniel Hart (1695-1758) was born in Farmington, the son of John & Mary Moore Hart. He married in 1719 to Abigail Hooker (1698-1761). Abigail was the daughter of John Hooker & Abigail Stanley. They had children: Sarah, Abigail, Thankful, Hannah, Selah, Nathaniel, Noadiah, and Asahel. Selah Hart was a Revolutionary War general and lived at 200 Four Rod Road.

HISTORIC SHRINE PREY TO FLAMES

Case Selah Hart Homestead Was
Standing in 1720

EST PRICELESS ANTIQUES LOST

Don- Out of Town Firemen Battle Blaze in
d On Sub-Zero Weather—Occupants of
dates Dwelling Overcome by Smoke—
city." Condition Reported Good at Noon.

(Special to the Herald)

Berlin, Jan. 24 — Flames that in sub-zero temperatures roared through ancient rooms over 225 years old early today destroyed this town's oldest landmark, the General Selah Hart homestead on Four Rod road, Kensington, but the loss could not be estimated by neighbors of its present owners, Misses Pauline and Caroline Bauer, because of the thousands of dollars worth of antiques that were converted into ashes by the fire.

Firemen from Engine Company 2, New Britain, fought the blaze for seven hours after they had carried out the home's present occupants, Town Court Deputy Judge George E. Green and Mrs. Green, overcome from smoke when they went back into the building to save some antiques. They were recovering at noon today, their conditions said not to be serious.

First word that the homestead, in which General Selah Hart of Revolutionary war fame was born 200 years ago, was afire came when Deputy Judge Green telephoned New Britain fire headquarters. He recalled telephoning the East Berlin volunteer fire department, but to no avail.

In the middle of his report at 3:42 a. m., the man at the desk heard Deputy Judge Green shout:

"I can't tell you any more now it's getting too hot in here!"

As a result, the firemen were confused as to the exact location of the burning building. On arrival, they were further delayed when they had to search for the nearest hydrant which necessitated using 1,100 feet of hose to bring water to the house.

Apparently, the blaze started in the cellar. The Greens were awakened by smoke pouring into the front

the

mansion following the disastrous house was known throughout the

HISTORIC SHRINE PREY TO FLAMES

(Continued from First Page)

many years before. It had been the home of the artist and writer, the farmer and manufacturer. Some time ago an ell was added to the southwestern corner of the original building, and this part of the house escaped damage. It was all that remained of the one and one-half story historic shrine.

Several months ago, Emma Hart Willard chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, placed a bronze tablet on the front of the home calling attention to the life of General Hart.

The battle firemen fought to save a remnant of the old landmark lasted nearly seven hours. Temperatures ranging from 4 to 6 below zero until long after sunrise hindered them and caused ice to form on helmet and hose.

A brisk wind swept from the north when, about 10 a. m., the men folded the ice-stiffened hose in 10 foot lengths and hauled it aboard a truck sent to pick it up. So cold was the weather the men had to chop the ice from their coats to loosen the buckles.

The antiques had been collected by the Greens over a period of years. Articles burned included spinning wheels, chairs, sofas, tables, prints and books—articles that cannot be replaced.

It was believed the fire started in the cellar. Oil is used to heat the house and neighbors were of the opinion the burner might have become overheated.

The house itself was invaluable because of its historic background. Painted a deep red, it had stood on a narrow Indian trail converted into a white man's road since before 1720. Persons from throughout Connecticut and other states visited it and it became a shrine to the D. A. R.

Mrs. Green, prominent in horticultural circles, had made particular efforts to surround the house with flower beds in keeping with its historic tradition.

BRITAIN HERALD

BERLIN, CONNECTICUT, TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1936.—EIGHTEEN PAGES

ST
RYPT
STORS

ins With
Final

CHERS
ON FOOT

Carriage
and to
—Widow
uppressive
President

Historic Landmark Burns



The Selah Hart homestead, oldest house in Berlin, was nearly destroyed by flames early this morning. Subzero temperature hindered New Britain firemen in their seven-hour battle with the blaze.

TALMAD
WILL
NE

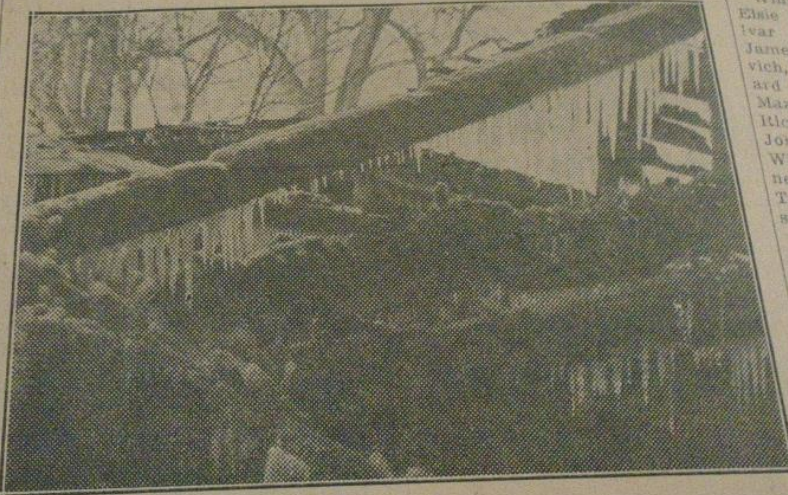
Sen. Robin
swer Al
tack at
Tonight-
Address
of Esau

Ickes Se

WIDOW LETS STATE HISTORIC SHEDINE

LD, TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1936.

As It Is Today



This picture shows the interior of the rooms of the Selah Hart mansion following the disastrous fire there this morning. The house was known throughout the state as an historic shrine.

Linder, Bern
Lorraine, Elva
seph, Lombar
Lynn
Winifred
Elsie Mack
tear, Elgva
James Man
vich, John
ard, Charl
Marzarella
Richard
John Me
William
nem, El
Thomas
suk, A
Edw
seph
Ida
Mari
gren
Vict
war
Lo
o